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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--1 SEPTEMBER 1962

1. SOVIET VENUS PROBE:

A VEHICLE WAS PUT INTO PARKING ORBIT FROM TYURATAM [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] IF THIS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITH PRECISION,

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THE VEHICLE WOULD REACH THE VICINITY OF VENUS ABOUT 7 DECEMBER, APPROXIMATELY A WEEK AHEAD OF THE US VENUS PROBE. [REDACTED]

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2. ALGERIA:

A. WE THINK IT LIKELY STILL THAT THE CONTENDING FACTIONS PREFER THE "BATTLE OF COMMUNIQUE" NOW IN PROGRESS TO A SETTLEMENT BY ARMS. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER EITHER SIDE CAN UNBEND ENOUGH TO PERMIT A PEACEFUL OUTCOME.

B. THE MOSLEM POPULATION IS MAKING IT UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR THAT IT IS FED UP WITH THE DEBILITATING DISPUTE. A MASS MEETING IN ALGIERS YESTERDAY THREATENED A GENERAL STRIKE IF FIGHTING BEGINS. LARGE NUMBERS ROAMED THE STREETS SHOUTING "BARAKAT"--- ENOUGH.

C. THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS THAT THE BEN BELLA PEOPLE AND LEADERS OF WILAYA IV ARE MAKING A LAST ATTEMPT [REDACTED] TO NEGOTIATE AN ACCOMMODATION. MILITARY FORCES LOYAL TO BEN BELLA, SOME OF THEM PROBABLY EQUIPPED WITH HEAVY WEAPONS, ARE CONTINUING THEIR MOVEMENTS INTO THE ENVIRONS OF ALGIERS. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] 50X1

3. CUBA:

A. THE STATE OF TENSION IN THE CUBAN ARMED FORCES [REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] YESTERDAY BE-  
CAME VISIBLE TO REPORTERS FOR THE US PRESS ON THE SCENE. THEIR  
DISPATCHES FROM HAVANA REPORTED THAT THE CITY WAS ASTIR WITH  
UNEXPLAINED MILITARY ACTIVITY AND SPOKE OF RUMORS THAT "SOME-  
THING WAS GOING ON" AT THE EASTERN END OF THE ISLAND. [REDACTED] 50X1

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B. IT APPEARS THAT THE REGIME HAS [REDACTED] CREATED A GENU-50X1  
INE INVASION SCARE IN [REDACTED] THE 50X1  
US BASE AT GUANTANAMO [REDACTED] CUBANS IN THE NEARBY TOWN OF CAIMANERA 50X1  
HAVE BEEN TOLD TO STAY INDOORS TODAY BECAUSE OF AN INVASION  
THREAT. [REDACTED] HEAVY MILITARY EQUIPMENT 50X1  
IS BEING MOVED THROUGH NORTHERN ORIENTE PROVINCE.

4. CONGO:

A. WITH TSHOMBE'S RESPONSE TO THE UN'S RECONCILIATION  
PLAN ALMOST READY FOR DELIVERY, THE BEST INDICATIONS ARE THAT  
HE WILL ANNOUNCE HIS ACCEPTANCE WITH "RESERVATIONS." IN SO DOING,  
HE WILL BE OVERRULING THE EXTREMIST WING OF HIS GOVERNMENT, WHICH

(Cont'd)

[REDACTED] 50X1

WANTS A FLAT REJECTION. TSHOMBE'S CHOICE OF THE MORE COOPERATIVE STANCE [REDACTED] IS BASED ON THE EXPECTATION THAT KATANGAN "INDEPENDENCE" CAN BE READILY RESTORED ONCE UN FORCES HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN--LATE THIS YEAR [REDACTED]

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B. WHILE TSHOMBE MAY THUS PLAN TO TURN HIS AMIABLE SIDE TO THE WORLD, UN PERSONNEL IN ELISABETHVILLE REPORT THAT THEY ARE UNDER INCREASING HARASSMENT FROM THE KATANGANS AND THAT THE SETTING IS REMINISCENT OF LAST DECEMBER WHEN FIGHTING BETWEEN THE TWO ERUPTED. THE NUMBER OF MERCENARIES IN THE CITY HAS ALSO BEEN RISING.

5. BERLIN:

A. THE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO BUILD A CASE FOR THE CONTENTION THAT THE WESTERN RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE CITY IS CONTINGENT ON THEIR RIGHT OF ACCESS TO WEST BERLIN.

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B. THE SOVIET COMMANDER IN EAST GERMANY [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] TOLD HIS US AND BRITISH COUNTERPARTS THAT HE WOULD RETALIATE AGAINST "YOUR VEHICLES WHICH PASS ON COMMUNICATION ROUTES UNDER OUR CONTROL," UNLESS THE ESCORT ON THE SOVIET WAR MEMORIAL VEHICLES WAS LIFTED.

C. WE SEE TWO POSSIBLE OBJECTIVES IN THIS ARGUMENT: FOR THE PRESENT, TO INDUCE US AND THE BRITISH TO ABANDON THE GALLING ESCORT; BEYOND THIS, TO DISCOURAGE RETALIATION IN THE EVENT THE EAST GERMANS TAKE STEPS TO BLOCK ALLIED MILITARY ACCESS TO EAST BERLIN.

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6. NOTES

A. WEST GERMANY: ADENAUER'S DISPARAGEMENT OF BRITISH MEMBERSHIP IN A EUROPEAN POLITICAL UNION HAS BEEN GREETED WITH DISMAY AND CRITICISM IN WEST GERMANY. FOREIGN MINISTER SCHROEDER EMBARRASSEDLY ASCRIBED THE CHANCELLOR'S COMMENTS ON TV EARLIER THIS WEEK TO FRUSTRATION OVER THE SLOW PACE OF INTEGRATION AND TO A LOSS OF DEFTNESS IN "MEET THE PRESS" SITUATIONS.

B. USSR: KHRUSHCHEV TOLD U THANT WHEN THEY MET LAST TUESDAY THAT, ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT MADE PLANS TO COME TO THE UNGA, HE WOULD NOT HESITATE TO COME OR TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT IF UNNAMED DEVELOPMENTS FAVORED SUCH A MEETING.

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